

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A method of treating an article, comprising:
 - (a) exposing the article within a space to a concentration of chlorine dioxide of at least 5 ppm; then
 - (b) using active dilution to reduce ~~reducing~~ the concentration of chlorine dioxide gas within the space to a positive quantity less than 5 ppm; then
 - (c) introducing additional chlorine dioxide gas into the space such that the concentration of chlorine dioxide gas into the space such that the concentration of chlorine dioxide gas within the space remains below 5 ppm.

2. (currently amended) A method of treating an article, comprising:
 - (a) exposing the article within a space to a concentration of chlorine dioxide of at least 0.3 ppm; then
 - (b) using active dilution to reduce ~~reducing~~ the concentration of chlorine dioxide gas within the space to a positive quantity less than 0.3 ppm; then
 - (c) introducing additional chlorine dioxide gas into the space such that the concentration of chlorine dioxide gas into the space such that the concentration of chlorine dioxide gas within the space remains below 0.3 ppm.

3. (currently amended) A method of treating an article, comprising:
 - (a) exposing the article within a space to a concentration of chlorine dioxide of at least 0.1 ppm; then
 - (b) using active dilution to reduce ~~reducing~~ the concentration of chlorine dioxide gas within the space to a positive quantity less than 0.1 ppm; then

(c) introducing additional chlorine dioxide gas into the space such that the concentration of chlorine dioxide gas into the space such that the concentration of chlorine dioxide gas within the space remains below 0.1 ppm.

4. (currently amended) A method of treating an article, comprising:

(a) exposing the article within a space to a concentration of chlorine dioxide of at least 5 ppm; then the IDLH; then

(b) using active dilution to reduce ~~reducing~~ the concentration of chlorine dioxide gas within the space to a positive quantity less than the IDLH; then

(c) introducing additional chlorine dioxide gas into the space such that the concentration of chlorine dioxide gas into the space such that the concentration of chlorine dioxide gas within the space remains below the IDLH.

5. (currently amended) A method of treating an article, comprising:

(a) exposing the article within a space to a concentration of chlorine dioxide of at least 5 ppm; then the STEL; then

(b) using active dilution to reduce ~~reducing~~ the concentration of chlorine dioxide gas within the space to a positive quantity less than the STEL; then

(c) introducing additional chlorine dioxide gas into the space such that the concentration of chlorine dioxide gas into the space such that the concentration of chlorine dioxide gas within the space remains below the STEL.

6. (currently amended) A method of treating an article, comprising:

(a) exposing the article within a space to a concentration of chlorine dioxide of at least 5 ppm; then the TLV; then

(b) using active dilution to reduce ~~reducing~~ the concentration of chlorine dioxide gas within the space to a positive quantity less than the TLV; then

(c) introducing additional chlorine dioxide gas into the space such that the concentration of chlorine dioxide gas into the space such that the concentration of chlorine dioxide gas within the space remains below the TLV.

7. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the article is a harvested agricultural product.

8. (new) The method of claim 2, wherein the article is a harvested agricultural product.

9. (new) The method of claim 3, wherein the article is a harvested agricultural product.

10. (new) The method of claim 4, wherein the article is a harvested agricultural product.

11. (new) The method of claim 5, wherein the article is a harvested agricultural product.

12. (new) The method of claim 6, wherein the article is a harvested agricultural product.

13. (new) The method of claim 1 further comprising generating chlorine dioxide gas by exposing a composition consisting essentially of at least one dry metal chlorite and at least one dry solid hydrophilic material comprising at least one inorganic material selected from the group consisting of hydrous clays, calcined clays, acidified clays and acidified calcined clays, wherein said composition is one which passes both the Dry Air and Humid Air Tests, to air comprising water vapor.

14. (new) The method of claim 2 further comprising generating chlorine dioxide gas by exposing a composition consisting essentially of at least one dry metal chlorite and at least one dry solid hydrophilic material comprising at least one inorganic material selected from the group consisting of hydrous clays, calcined clays, acidified clays and acidified calcined clays, wherein said composition is one which passes both the Dry Air and Humid Air Tests, to air comprising water vapor.

15. (new) The method of claim 3 further comprising generating chlorine dioxide gas by exposing a composition consisting essentially of at least one dry metal chlorite and at least one dry solid hydrophilic material comprising at least one inorganic material selected from the group consisting of hydrous clays, calcined clays, acidified clays and acidified calcined clays, wherein said composition is one which passes both the Dry Air and Humid Air Tests, to air comprising water vapor.

16. (new) The method of claim 4 further comprising generating chlorine dioxide gas by exposing a composition consisting essentially of at least one dry metal chlorite and at least one dry solid hydrophilic material comprising at least one inorganic material selected from the group consisting of hydrous clays, calcined clays, acidified clays and acidified calcined clays, wherein said composition is one which passes both the Dry Air and Humid Air Tests, to air comprising water vapor.

17. (new) The method of claim 5 further comprising generating chlorine dioxide gas by exposing a composition consisting essentially of at least one dry metal chlorite and at least one dry solid hydrophilic material comprising at least one inorganic material selected from the group consisting of hydrous clays, calcined clays, acidified clays and acidified calcined clays, wherein said composition is one which passes both the Dry Air and Humid Air Tests, to air comprising water vapor.

18. (new) The method of claim 6 further comprising generating chlorine dioxide gas by exposing a composition consisting essentially of at least one dry metal chlorite and at least one dry solid hydrophilic material comprising at least one inorganic material selected from the group consisting of hydrous clays, calcined clays, acidified clays and acidified calcined clays, wherein said composition is one which passes both the Dry Air and Humid Air Tests, to air comprising water vapor.